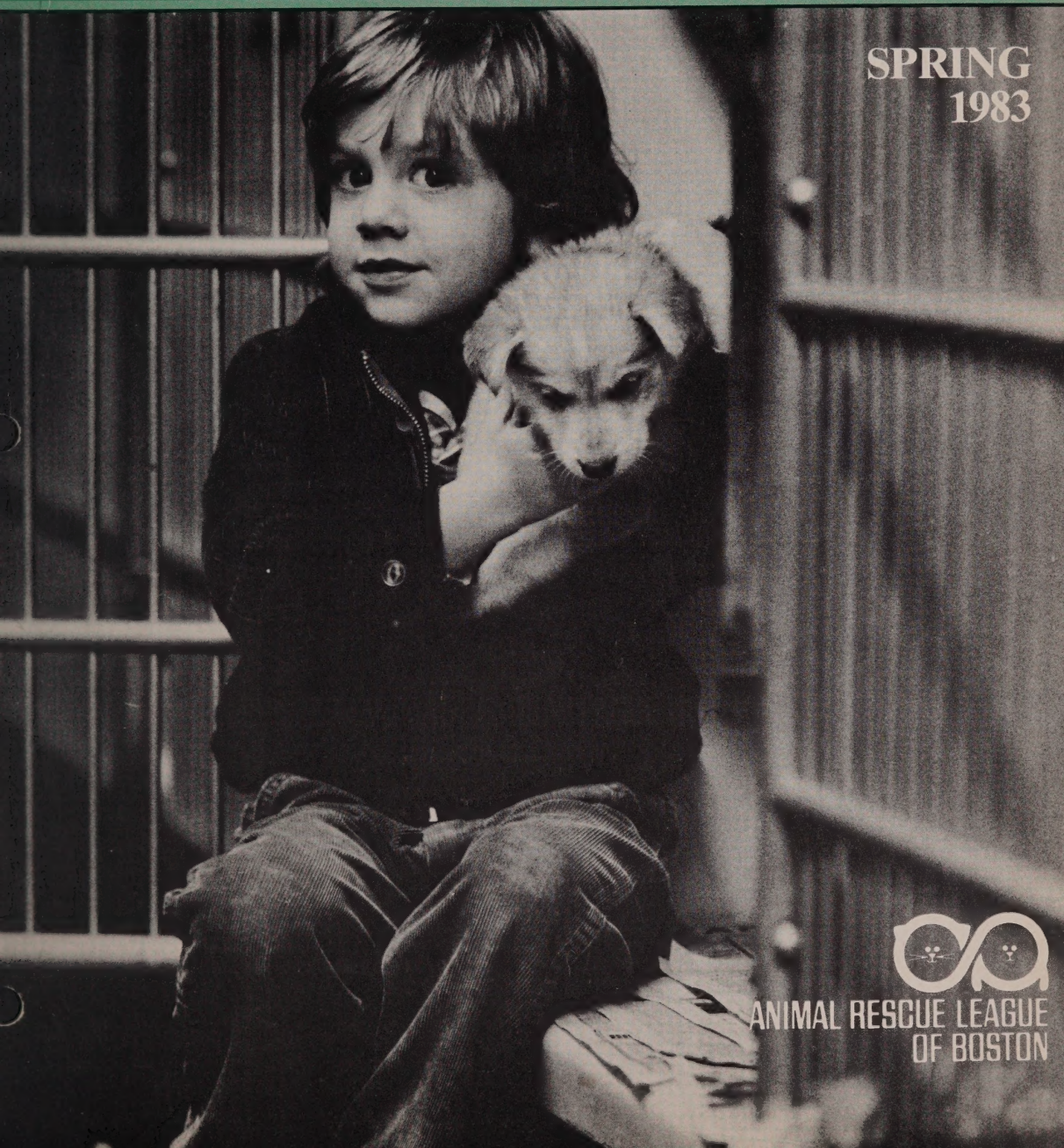
our fourfooted friends



SPRING
1983

ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE
OF BOSTON

ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BOSTON

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COVER PHOTO: Tyler Burke, 3, of Hyde Park finds a new friend at the League.
Photo by Joanne Rathe, courtesy of the Boston Herald.

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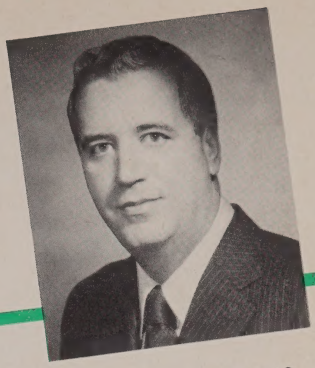

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT...

TIME FOR A NEW EFFORT

It is sad to report that the Pound Seizure Repeal Bill (H-6539) did not pass in the 1982 Massachusetts Legislature.

The defeat of the Bill was despite the most active and all out effort ever put forth in the history of this Commonwealth. This was especially disappointing in view of the fact that Governor King had indicated he would sign the Bill if it reached his desk. The Bill also progressed farther in the "Legislative Machinery" having passed the House of Representatives only to die in the final hours of the session in the Senate.

There was tremendous public support for this repeal, and I am deeply grateful for the response of our members and friends as manifested by the thousands of letters we received from you. The vast majority were copies of letters sent to Legislators or letters indicating such support had been sent to them. The reaction to our Legislative Bulletins and advertisements was so great that it would have been impossible to acknowledge them individually. However, your support was outstanding and I wish to take this opportunity to tell each of you how much it was appreciated and how important it was to our efforts. There is no question that this type of response is the most vital single factor in such a campaign.

Although we are greatly disappointed in the outcome in 1982, we are not disheartened in our determination to continue to work for the repeal of the Pound Seizure Law in 1983. A Bill identical to last year's has already been co-sponsored by us, S-215, and introduced into the current Legislature. We will keep you advised of its progress.

If we may once again count on your splendid support, we pray this Repeal will become a reality this year.

Arthur G. Slade
President

Rescue:

THE LEAGUE'S MIDDLE NAME

Mike Walencis brings an injured pup to the League for treatment.

What should you do if your cat is stranded in a tree? Or a family of raccoons has taken up residence in your chimney? Or you discover a 40-lb. snapping turtle making slow but steady progress across your lawn?

Several hundred people call the League each year for help in these and similar situations. While most people are familiar with the League's adoption, shelter and health care services, many may not realize that the League conducts an extensive ambulance and rescue service seven days a week, at the League's Boston headquarters and its branches in Salem and Brewster.

In Boston, the service is equipped with four ambulances, three of which go out on daily routes, serving Boston, and the North and South Shore areas, while the fourth remains at headquarters ready to respond to emergency calls. In addition to emergency and rescue assistance, the driver-agents also pick up animals that are being given up by their owners. "At night, three people are on duty until midnight and one is always here from midnight to 7 a.m., so that if the police or Red Cross need to bring in animals from a fire or other emergency situation, someone is here to accept them," explains Peter Faux, Agent Supervisor in charge of the ambulance and rescue program.

Ambulances are equipped with nets, rescue pole and first aid kit for emergency treatment of injuries or bleeding wounds, and drivers take along whatever additional equipment may be needed, such as stretchers, harnesses and ropes. The newest of the fleet is a large open truck which can transport the League's rescue boat to scenes of water rescues, which are a major problem in the winter when birds and animals get trapped on ice floes or fall through thin ice on area ponds and rivers.

"Not long ago we took the boat out on the Charles River behind the Science Museum where two sea gulls with broken wings were stranded on the ice. Two M.D.C. boats and two Boston police boats helped to break up the ice so we could get to them," Faux recalls. Another recent rescue involved a white goose whose stomach had frozen to the ice. "We used the boat to get to him, then chopped the ice around him and brought the half-frozen goose to the League where he was thawed out with the aid of a hot air dryer and later freed at the Audubon Society's Drumlin Farm," Faux says. Just recently, agents were called out to rescue a dog that fell through the ice on the Charles River, near the Dedham-Hyde Park line. After the rescue the dog, which had been lost, was claimed by its relieved owner.

In addition to weather, human carelessness is also a threat to the animal and bird population. Peter Faux, inspectors Frank Camfora and Alan Borgal, and driver-agent Mike Walencis rescued a mallard duck on Whiting's pond in Weymouth that was entangled in a plastic 6-pack ring that had become looped around its neck (see photo on page 9). Other driver-agents in the ambulance-rescue service include Mike Flynn, Julie Sword, Laura Sabatula, and Jim Sears.

Every day, the agents respond to calls reporting dogs and cats being hit by cars. They administer emergency first aid and transport the animal as quickly as possible to veterinary care.

Another common call for help deals with cats caught up in trees. League agents usually advise owners simply to wait until the animal comes down on its own, unless weather conditions are quite severe. In emergency situations, the agent can use a 20 or 40 foot ladder and an extendable pole with a padded loop that can be secured around the animal's stomach, but usually this measure is not necessary.

While the majority of emergency calls involve dogs, cats, bats in a house, raccoons in chimneys, birds, ducks and other water fowl

(Continued on next page)

Agent Julie Sword rescues abandoned animals from a Boston warehouse.

Robert Walsh, Boston shelter manager, extends a helping hand to a stranded cat.

Peter Faux — Agent Supervisor

Rescue *(continued from pg. 5)*
in difficulty, the agents have also had to respond with great presence of mind to situations featuring more unusual or exotic creatures, like the time a bull was reported loose on the V.F.W. Parkway. Jim Sears joined the M.D.C. police in the chase, captured the bull and tied it to a tree on a West Roxbury street until he located its owner at a nearby farm. Another recent guest at the League was an 8-foot boa constrictor whose Dorchester owner had given it up. The snake had to be transported to Lexington where it was accepted by a herpetologist who had the skills to give it proper care.

"Large snapping turtles, which can grow to 30 or 40 pounds, can create problems in April and May, when they crawl out of the Charles River or area ponds to lay their eggs and frequently turn up on people's lawns or in backyards," according to Peter Faux. Other problems that turn up every year at about this time can be traced to human ignorance. Each year after Easter, people who have purchased baby white Peking ducks release them on ponds when they start to get big. These ducks can't fly to protect themselves from predators, and the League is usually called to pick them up. People also create problems when they "rescue" baby wildlife, in the mistaken belief that the nest of baby squirrels, or raccoons, or rabbits, has been abandoned by the parents. "In the case of rabbits, particularly, the mother is normally away all day, returning in the evening with food," Faux explains. He urges well-meaning would-be rescuers to leave baby wildlife alone unless absolutely sure that the parents have been killed or injured, in which case the League should be notified.

League agents who go out on calls to houses are always extremely alert to possible abuse or neglect cases, which are immediately reported to the League's law enforcement inspectors. "We are trying to expand our services and do as much as we possibly can," Faux summarizes. "Our goal is to provide the maximum assistance possible, for the welfare of both animals and their owners."

PETS IN THE PICTURE

Margaret Carroll Fay of Jamaica Plain poses with her dog, "Lucky," who had been abandoned and was adopted by Mrs. Fay in 1980. "She is a good watchdog and a wonderful companion," Mrs. Fay writes.

Here is "Whitesocks", a clever cat owned by Martha Norton of Boston, shown relaxing on his favorite chair. "Whitesocks," who was adopted from the Animal Rescue League, does all kinds of tricks, according to his proud owner.

"Terri II", the Frisbee champ, leaps to make a catch from 100 feet at Hingham Harbor. "When adopted from the League three years ago, she had been abused by a previous owner. But you'd never know it today, thanks to tender loving care," owner Harry Brown of Braintree writes.

ANNUAL REPORT 1982

Frank Camfora, League inspector, removes plastic 6-pack ring from mallard duck in one of 1982's 8,617 rescue calls.

Though 1982 brought little relief on the economic scene, either nationally or locally, with more than a little bit of help from its friends the League was able to relieve the suffering of some 3,000 more animals than the previous year, with the number of animals served in 1982 totaling 88,931.

The number of animals placed in new homes, including dogs, cats and miscellaneous pets rose by over 9%, with a total of 4,308 adoptions in 1982. The number of lost pets returned to their owners was also on the increase, resulting in 1,212 happy reunions, which was 10% over the previous year.

These efforts and accomplishments would not have been possible without the support of a dedicated staff, loyal volunteers and, most crucial, the concern and assistance provided by the League's 15,000 members. During 1982, 3,968 new members and donors joined in the League's efforts to provide total humane and welfare services for animals through its region of service.

Two major pieces of legislation were a prime concern of the League during the past year. The new Guard Dog Licensing Bill went into effect in April, 1982, providing for the first time regulations addressing inhumane conditions in guard dog businesses. The League was not only involved in extensive efforts leading to the passage of the Bill, but also assisted the Massachusetts Department of Agriculture in drawing up regulations covering the training, kenneling, transport and general well-being of guard dogs, and, together with the M.S.P.C.A., is responsible for inspections of guard dog businesses and enforcement of the new law.

Less happily, despite major work on the part of the League and overwhelming support from its members, efforts to repeal the state's Pound Seizure Law which

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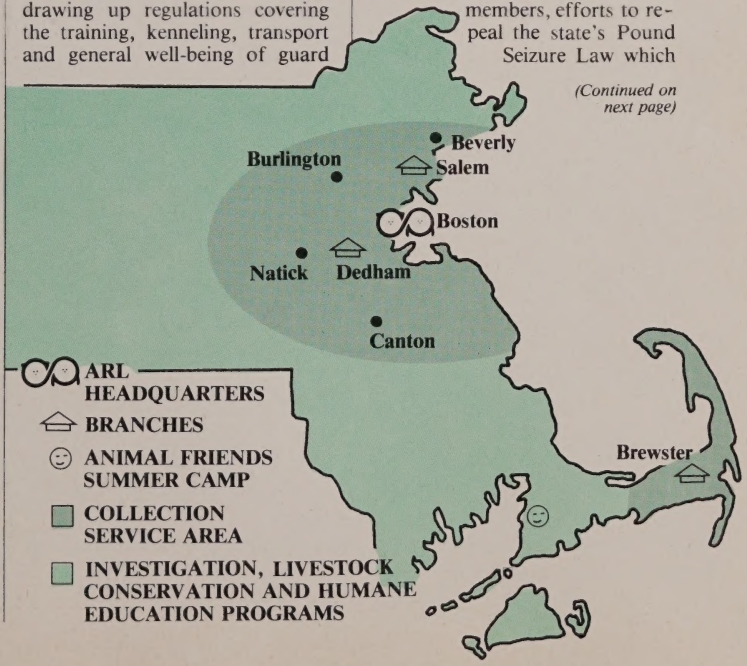
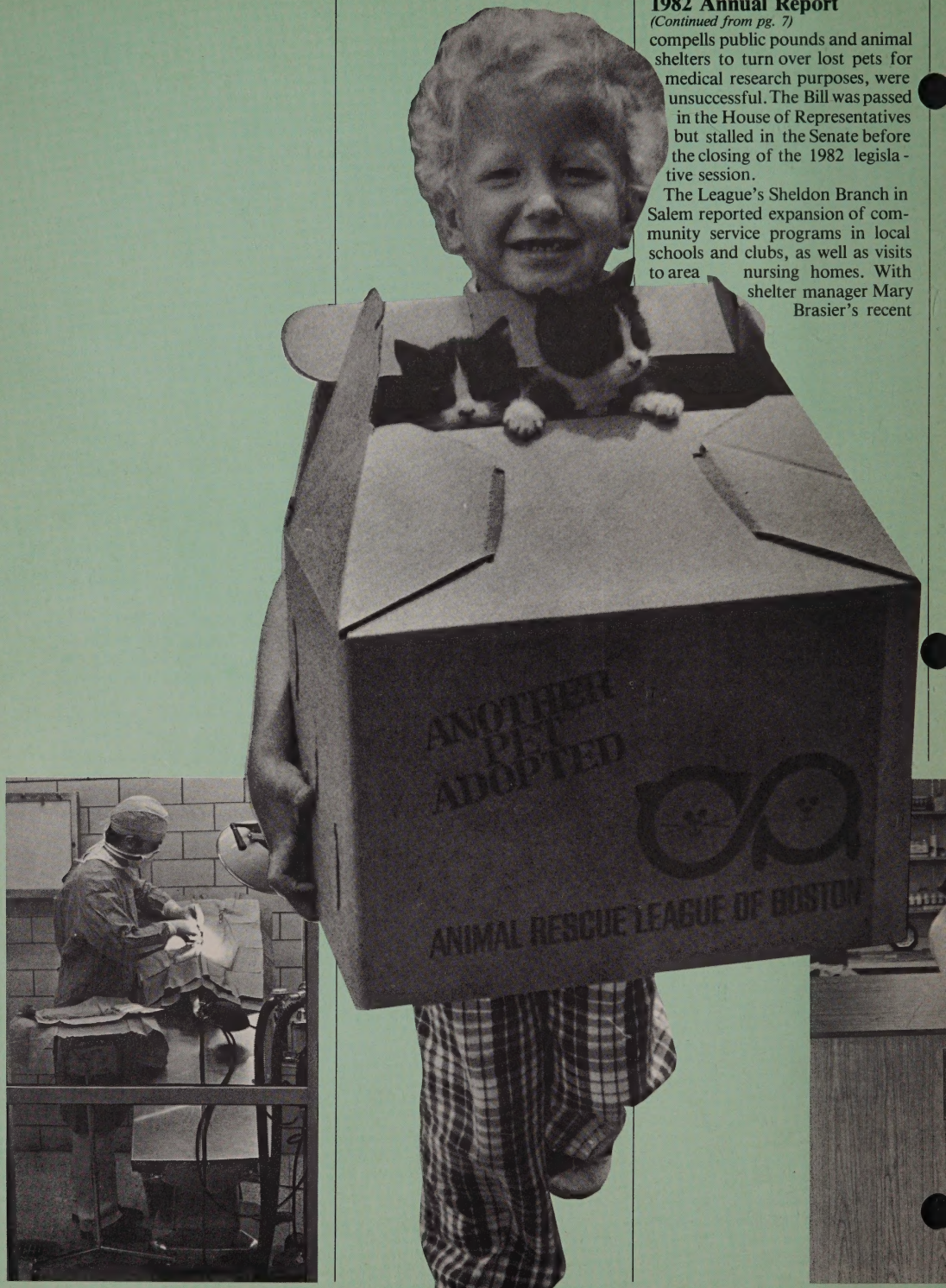


1982 Annual Report

(Continued from pg. 7)

compells public pounds and animal shelters to turn over lost pets for medical research purposes, were unsuccessful. The Bill was passed in the House of Representatives but stalled in the Senate before the closing of the 1982 legislative session.

The League's Sheldon Branch in Salem reported expansion of community service programs in local schools and clubs, as well as visits to area nursing homes. With shelter manager Mary Brasier's recent



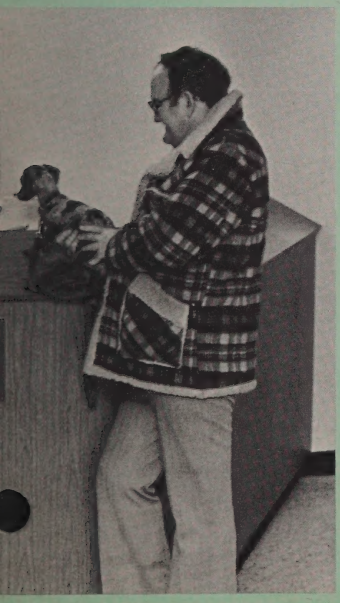
commission as a special police officer in cases involving cruelty to animals, this Branch is also expanding its investigation and law enforcement activities.

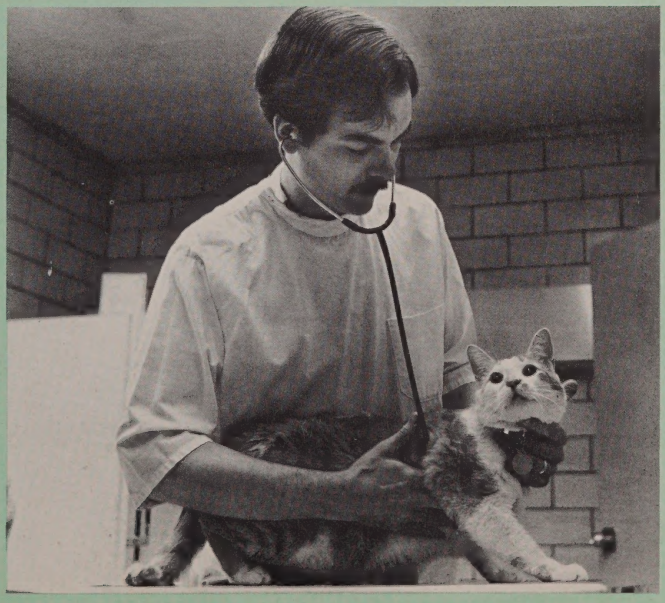
A new pet show, hoped to be an annual event, was launched this year in Harwich by the Cape Cod Branch in Brewster, which also reports an expansion of public awareness efforts through a number of live radio broadcasts (WOCB) from the shelter on pet adoptions, and a full hour program on Pet Owner Responsibility broadcast over WKZE. Branch manager Donald Westover also joined with other humane, nature and wildlife associations in establishing the Cape Cod Wildlife Advisory Board, and conducted a number of educational programs for police, humane and animal control officers on Cape Cod and in its vicinity.

Overall inspection and investigation activities rose, with the staff handling a total of 1,354 cases involving over 53,600 animals. In addition to routine inspection of pet shops, fairs, livestock auctions, and other commercial operations housing animals, the staff also responds to abuse and neglect complaints and emergency rescue calls. The article on page 4 describes many of the animals assisted in these situations. Not mentioned there, however, are the two rattlesnakes which a League agent picked up at a Braintree company parking lot, on two consecutive calls a week apart, or the 68 birds which were seized in a gaming raid. The fowl included roosters, chickens, baby chicks and ducks. Those that were not too diseased to survive were placed in homes by the League.

The Animal Friends Summer School at Cataumet, the annual Pet Show, the Animal Friends club and newsletter, school programs and other activities directed at teaching youngsters to love and respect animal life continued to thrive. These programs, together with Our Fourfooted Friends, pet care articles and features in New England print and broadcast media, and special seminars and public speaking appearances by humane education staff members form the heart of an ongoing humane education program directed at creating a better world in the future for pets and people.

Photos (l to r):
Spay and neuter activities, pet adoptions, and health care services for pets and shelter animals were all on the rise in 1982.





Meet Hoover—

The Talk of the Tank!

. . . zoologists believe that Hoover is the first non-human mammal to successfully mimic the human voice.

On any warm spring afternoon, the outdoor seal pond at the New England Aquarium is ringed three-deep with entranced spectators. As harbor seals of all ages, sizes and shapes perform for their audience, voices of children and adults alike can be heard calling out "Hoover, here Hoover," trying to get the attention of the portly male harbor seal who has become one of the Hub's most famous attractions. Suddenly another voice joins the chorus, but this one is different from the rest. At first, everyone looks around to see which of the other spectators is responsible for the gruff and rather grumpy voice barking out Hoover's name, until suddenly they realize that it's the star himself displaying his unique talent.

Eleven years old and about 240 pounds, Hoover is an orphan rescued off the Maine coast as a pup by Mr. and Mrs. George Swallow and adopted soon afterward by the New England Aquarium. In 1974, at the age of three years, he began making sounds. Six years ago, Hoover began mimicing human sounds and he's been on an astounding (for a seal, that is) talking jag ever since. According to Aquarium officials, zoologists believe that Hoover is the first non-human mammal to successfully mimic the human voice. Gibbons and elephant seals have been reported to mimic each other's sounds, but not the human voice.

Encouraged in his efforts by the staff and volunteers who work with him daily, and by a growing and appreciative fan club, Hoover now has a vocabulary that includes his name, "how are you," "hello there," and on unsociable days, "get out of here." His voice is deep and gutteral, but distinct, and at times he seems to display a definite sense of humor. Not only does he delight in teasing visitors, disappearing and then popping up to chat where he's least expected, but also he is frequently heard to chuckle, or emit what one delighted listener describes as "the laugh of a dirty old man."

Hoover consumes about 12 to 18 pounds of herring daily, and socializes well with the other harbor seals who share his living quarters, including his offspring: Luciver, Cinder and Beanie. His species, *Phoca vitulina*, is native to the New England area. Harbor seals normally range from Canada to New Jersey, although they have been known to travel as far south as Florida.

According to Aquarium officials, research is currently underway to understand the "extraordinary scientific phenomenon" that Hoover represents. Tape recordings of his voice have been made and are being analyzed and compared with the human voice model in the same manner used to make voice prints.

The life expectancy of the harbor seal is approximately 30 years. No one knows if Hoover's vocabulary will continue to grow in middle and later years, but now that he's gotten the hang of it, it is likely that the world will be hearing more both from and about Hoover in the years to come.

KIDS and PETS

This June, children will have an opportunity to get "under the fur" of dogs and cats at a special exhibit at Boston's Children's Museum titled "Kids and Pets," and presented locally under the sponsorship of the Animal Rescue League of Boston.

"Kids and Pets" is a multidimensional, walk-in exhibit produced by The American Humane Association to offer children a way to explore animal senses, and learn about anatomy, behavior and the proper way to care for pets. A traveling exhibit, "Kids and Pets" made its debut at the AHA's annual meeting in Denver last Fall, and has since appeared elsewhere in Colorado and in New York and will be at the New England Federation of Humane Societies' Annual Meeting in Maine this May.

The exhibit features 25 participatory activities, including simulations where children can "try on" fur and whiskers, look into "sight boxes," listen to a "hearing wall," study "paws and claws," and crawl through the "smell maze." Other special features include a one-minute film, a "Fat Cat" quiz which stresses nutrition, and a visit to a vet's office. Children visiting the exhibit also take away with them a pet care brochure including a duty roster, a survey on choosing a pet and other general pet care and pet related activity information.

newsfront

ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BOSTON

"Joey" Has New Home With Richard Kiley

When stage star Richard Kiley left Boston after appearing here in *Man of La Mancha*, he took home more than just fond memories. He is shown here with "Joey II" in his California home, a stray dog he found wandering in the street and adopted through the League. "The Rescue League officers at the reception desk couldn't have been more compassionate and helpful," he writes. Kiley's former pet, the first "Joey," had recently been killed in an accident." "Joey II" has the same appearance and loving disposition as the first, and we feel most lucky to have found him," Kiley said in a letter to League president Arthur Slade.

League Names New Education and Information Coordinator

Stephen R. Wachman, formerly a humane instructor at the League, has been appointed education and information coordinator, succeeding Sarah Collins who has resigned to move to Peking, China, with her husband, a marine insurance representative who will be working there for two years. Mr. Wachman was a teacher at Brookline High School and the Bunker Hill Community College before joining the League, and prior to that was assistant director of the Massachusetts Audubon Society's Trailside Museum for six years. He has a B.S. degree from the University of Maryland, and an M.S. degree in environmental education from Antioch Graduate School of Education in Keene, N.H.

Instant Camera A Welcome Gift

When *Our Fourfooted Friends* photo editor Bob Howard purchased this Polaroid camera as part of a recent airline promotion, he donated it to the League, where it will be used on educational visits to local schools. These promotions have been widespread this past

(Continued on next page)

(Continued from pg. 13)

winter, and many people have purchased cameras or film that they may not want or need, simply to qualify for the airline special offer. If anyone wishes to donate their cameras or film, the League can put them to good use at its summer school, in law enforcement activities and in recording dramatic animal rescues.

Seminar On First Aid Held At Cape

Participants in a seminar on first aid sponsored for animal control officers and humane society personnel by the League's Cape Cod Branch demonstrate bandaging techniques with the aid of a willing pet performer. From left to right are: Donald F. Westover, manager of the League's Cape Cod Branch, Dr. Michael Lappin of Buzzards Bay, and Mary Brasier, manager of the Sheldon Branch in Salem.

Things Come In Threes For Soviet Bear

The Soviet Union's newest "Hero Mother", an honor given to one who has had more than seven children and is therefore entitled to special privileges, like extra living space, is a brown bear named "Masha". According to a U.P.I. report from Moscow, "Masha" and her mate "Potap" have proudly produced triplets every year for three years. The new parents and their cubs are reported doing fine at the Yedinsky zoo in Moldavia.

League Guests On "Look"

Edward A. Leonard, D.V.M. (third from left), director of veterinary medicine at the League, was recently a guest on WNEV-TV's new afternoon program, Look, in a special Adopt-a-Pet segment. With Dr. Leonard, greeting a canine visitor from the League, are (left to right) Frank Purdue, Rosalee, owner of Rosalee's Restaurant, and co-host Ann Butler.

June Is Adopt-a-Cat Month

Procrastinators who have put off adopting that cat or kitten they've always wanted should make plans now to celebrate the sixth national Adopt-a-Cat month in June, by offering a home to a feline friend. Sponsored by 9-Lives Cat Food for The American Humane Association, this special observance is held each June, right after the peak feline breeding season when shelters have to make a special effort to find homes for the large number of kittens given up each Spring. Morris, 9-Lives famous feline star, is again national "spokescat" for the event, and special adoption kits will be available at the League for anyone who adopts a cat in June.

Membership in the A.R.L. makes a nice gift for someone special!

For further information on Gift Membership in the Animal Rescue League of Boston, please contact:

ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BOSTON

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TEL. 426-9170

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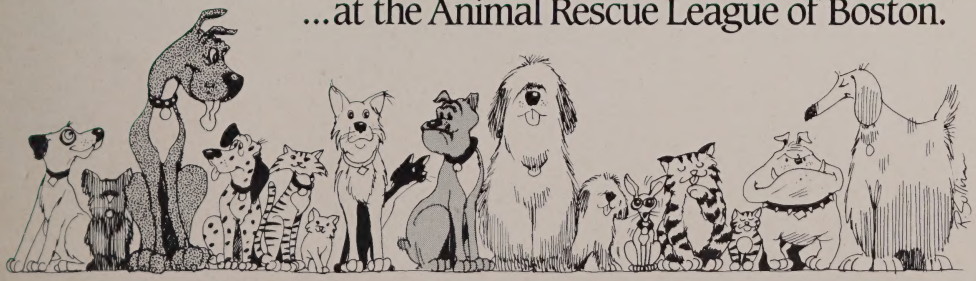
Love comes in all colors and sizes...

...at the Animal Rescue League of Boston.



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Animal Rescue League of Boston
A Non-Profit Humane Society Helping Animals Since 1899.

The President and Board of Directors
Cordially invite you to attend our

ANNUAL MEETING

Wednesday
April 20, 1983 2:30 p.m.
League Headquarters
at the
Corner of Arlington & Tremont Streets
Boston, Massachusetts

Program:
Annual Meeting
•
Election of Directors
•
Guest Speaker
James A. Pfeiffer, Field Officer
World Society for the Protection of Animals (W.S.P.A.)
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